

Message Text

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PAGE 01 HONG K 08129 261345Z
ACTION HA-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-12 IO-14 ISO-00 INSE-00 VOE-00 /032 W
-----044584 261349Z /43

P R 260947Z JUN 78
FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1115
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY SEOUL
USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS HONG KONG 8129

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SREF
SUBJECT: EXPEDITING MOVEMENT OF INDOCHINESE REFUGEES TO U.S.

REF: STATE 161503

1. ICEM HONG KONG INFORMS US THAT DURING PAST TWO YEARS IT HAS NEVER MOVED AN INDOCHINA REFUGEE CASE TO U.S. WITHOUT AT LEAST SEVEN DAYS PRIOR NOTIFICATION. NORMAL NOTIFICATION IS GIVEN MINIMUM TEN DAYS IN ADVANCE, BUT OCCASIONALLY IT HAS BEEN SEVEN DAYS. AREAS SERVED BY ICEM HONG KONG ARE PHILIPPINES, JAPAN, KOREA, INDONESIA, TAIWAN AND HONG KONG/MACAU.

2. WE AGREE THAT IT IS MUCH PREFERABLE TO CONCENTRATE ARRIVALS AND ICEM HONG KONG INFORMS US THAT IT MAKES EVERY EFFORT TO DO SO. HOWEVER, DUE TO PEAK SUMMER TRAVEL SEASON AND CURRENT NORTHWEST STRIKE, IT IS DIFFICULT TO OBTAIN
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SEATS AND OCCASIONALLY ONLY SEVERAL REFUGEES CAN BE BOOKED ON A PARTICULAR FLIGHT.

3. CONGEN COULD SEND DIRECT RELAY CABLE TO INDIVIDUAL SPONSORS IN U.S. ON HONG KONG/MACAU CASES UPON RECEIPT SPONSORSHIP FORMS FROM ACVA, BUT THIS WOULD PROVIDE ONLY SEVERAL MORE DAYS NOTIFICATION. AS SOON AS SPONSORSHIP FORMS ARE RECEIVED

HERE, INS CLOSES FILES AND SENDS THEM BY MESSENGER TO ICEM HONG KONG WHICH THEN MAKES RESERVATIONS. WE BELIEVE THAT PROBLEM MAY BE IN NEW YORK CITY. ICEM HONG KONG NOTIFIES ICEM NEW YORK OF SCHEDULED MOVEMENTS WITH REQUEST THAT ICEM NEW YORK NOTIFY ACVA WHICH IN TURN NOTIFIES SPONSORS. DEPT MAY WISH CHECK WITH ICEM NEW YORK AND ACVA TO DETERMINE HOW MUCH TIME IS INVOLVED FROM RECEIPT TELEX BY ICEM NEW YORK TO NOTIFICATION OF SPONSORS AND HOW THOSE SPONSORS ARE NOTIFIED. FOR EXAMPLE, ARE SPONSORS NOTIFIED BY TELEGRAM, BY LETTER OR BY TELEPHONE?

4. IN HONG KONG/MACAU, MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS ARE CONDUCTED DAY AFTER INS INTERVIEW. THUS, IF MEDICAL PROBLEM IS DISCOVERED, WE KNOW ABOUT IT PROMPTLY. CONGEN WILL INCREASE ITS EFFORTS TO ENSURE THAT ACVA IS NOTIFIED PROMPTLY OF ANY MEDICAL PROBLEMS SO THAT SPONSORSHIP SEARCH CAN BE DELAYED UNTIL MEDICAL PROBLEM IS RESOLVED. THIS HAS BEEN PROBLEM HERE IN PAST WHEN FOUR DIFFERENT AGENCIES WERE HANDLING ASSURANCES, BUT NOW THAT CONGEN IS FOCAL POINT, IT SHOULD NOT OCCUR NOW.
SHOESMITH

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 26 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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ISecure: 1
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Litigation History:
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